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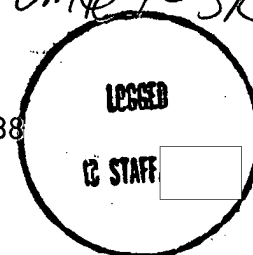
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NFIB-M-234
7 September 1988

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MEMORANDUM FOR NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD PRINCIPALS

FROM:

Deputy Executive Secretary, NFIB

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SUBJECT: Minutes of the 234th NFIB Meeting, 28 July 1988,
1400 Hours (OUO)Summary of Decisions (OUO)

The Chairman, Director of Central Intelligence Webster, with the concurrence of the NFIB principals, approved 4/11-88: US Capabilities to Monitor Soviet Strategic Force Developments: Defensive Forces: Volume IV subject to changes agreed at the meeting.

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The Chairman, also with the concurrence of the NFIB principals, approved SNIE 14.3-88: Vietnam in Transition: Prospects for and Implications of Reform subject to changes agreed at the meeting,

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Minutes of the Meeting1. Miscellanea

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The Chairman opened the meeting by remarking that this was General Odom's final appearance at an NFIB meeting and paid tribute to his illustrious career and noted that he had just been awarded the the National Intelligence Distinguished Service medal in addition to his battery of other decorations.

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3. Vietnam in Transition: Prospects for and Implications of Reform
(SNIE 14.3-88) (S/NF)

Introducing the Estimate, the Chairman commented that the Estimate examines Vietnam, an economic basketcase, and its struggle to institute reform. Vietnam's current policies--both domestic and foreign--mark important breaks with the past. This has important implications for such issues as the future of Cambodia and normalization of US-Vietnamese relations. Carl Ford, the National Intelligence Officer for East Asia, will provide you with additional information. [redacted]

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Mr. Ford first presented the principal drafter, [redacted] senior analyst on Indo-China and complimented him on his efforts. Mr. Ford went on to remark that coordination had been long and contentious and that the Department of State's Bureau of Intelligence Research had major problems which could not be easily bridged. NFIB members have been given change sheets summarizing other changes but these are principally word-smithing. A sanitized version of the estimate will be prepared and issued under a White Cover. [redacted]

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In response to a request from INR, the following changes to the Key Judgments were made:

Top of page 4: "--A weak economic infrastructure, including a limited capacity to absorb foreign aid or investment..

Page 4, third paragraph: "While the security apparatus probably could contain such outbursts, the unrest could engender a serious backlash by conservative leaders against the reform program and its proponents.
(S/NF)

General Perroots said that this was a fair and balanced treatment which was timely and he concurred in it as did LTG Odom. (C)

Mr. Kamman pointed out that there is presently an NSDD study being done on Vietnam and wondered if that was the reason for the fast-track process under which this estimate had been prepared. Mr. Kamman went on to say that because of the forced pace INR analysts remarked that they were dealing with a moving target. INR is not persuaded that Vietnam's policy is changing. Their policy is to have compliant governments in Laos and Cambodia. Their first objective is to defeat and destroy the Khmer Rouge. Their second is to set up a pliant government in Cambodia. Until these goals are accomplished they will not willing withdraw from Cambodia. What Vietnam is seeking is some form of coalition without Pol Pot. Although INR basically agrees with the analysis, it believes it overstates the linkage between Hanoi's economic straits and

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flexibility in its Indo-China policy. NFIB members have been given a copy of an INR footnote explaining these views which INR wishes to incorporate into the Estimate or as a dissent. This footnote was added to page two of the Key Judgments. [REDACTED]

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There being no further discussion, the Chairman, with the concurrence of the NFIB principals, approved the estimate subject to changes made at the meeting. [REDACTED]

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At the conclusion of the meeting a standing ovation was given to General Odom. [REDACTED]

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4. Secretariat Notes

Since the Board's last meeting, the principals by telephone:

--on 30 June approved the minutes of the Board's 232nd meeting. [REDACTED]

--on 19 July approved a revised Director of Central Intelligence Directive 1/16, Security Policy on Intelligence Information in Automated Systems and Networks. [REDACTED]

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Those Attending

Judge William H. Webster, Chairman
Mr. Richard J. Kerr, Deputy Director for Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Curtis Kamman, Acting for Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Research, Department of State
Lieutenant General Leonard H. Perroots, USAF, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Lieutenant General William Odom, USA, Director, National Security Agency
Mr. Randall M. Fort, Special Assistant to the Secretary (National Security), Department of Treasury
Mr. Robert J. Walsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence, Department of Energy
Mr. Oliver Revell, Executive Assistant Director for Investigations, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Captain James Eglin, USN, Acting for Director of Naval Intelligence
Colonel Billy Bingham, USAF, Acting for Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Mr. John Guenther, Acting for Director of Intelligence, U.S. Marine Corps

Those Absent

Representative for the Secretary of the Air Force
Representative for the Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, U.S. Army

Those Attending

Mr. Carl Ford, National Intelligence Officer for East Asia
[redacted] Deputy Director for Requirements and Evaluation, Intelligence Community Staff 25X1
Mr. Lawrence Gershwin, National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs
Mr. David Gries, Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council
[redacted] SOVA/DI 25X1
Lieutenant General Edward J. Heinz, USAF, Director, Intelligence Community Staff
[redacted] Defense Intelligence Agency 25X1
[redacted] Deputy Director, Intelligence Community Staff
[redacted] Assistant National Intelligence Officer for East Asia

SUBJECT: Draft Minutes of the 234th NFIB Meeting, 23 July 1988, 1400 Hours (000)

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NFIB/S/ [redacted] (7 Sep 88)

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